REMARKS

In response to the Office Action, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider the above-captioned application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following comments.

Discussion of Telephonic Interview

Applicant's attorney wishes to express his appreciation to the Examiner for the courtesy of conducting a telephonic interview for this application. During this interview, the Applicant and the Examiner discussed proposed claim amendments that if entered would overcome the cited prior art. Applicant submits that he has amended the claims in conformance with this discussion.

Discussion of Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-12, 14-17, 19, 20, 22, 24-32, 34-42, 44-47, and 51-54 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0013952, to Boon (hereinafter "Boon"). Claims 48-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boon. Claims 13, 18, 21, 23 , 33, and 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boon in view of U.S. Patent Application No. 2001/0038674, to Trans (hereinafter "Trans").

One embodiment of the invention relates to encoding an input video stream to produce multiple encoded and compressed versions or representations of the stream. *See* Section II of the Specification, titled "Overview of the Invention," page 12, lines 17-21. The different versions can be configured for real-time transmission at different data rates to different users depending upon, for example, the bandwidth of the transmission channel to each user. A high bit-rate/bandwidth version, for example, can be transmitted to a user having a high-bandwidth link to provide a high-quality video signal. A lower bit-rate/bandwidth version, for example, can be transmitted to a user having a low-bandwidth link with a resulting lower quality signal. *See* Specification, page 14, line 20 through page 15, line 3.

In accordance with one embodiment, different encoding parameters can be used during the encoding process for each of the multiple representations so that each representation is

configured for its intended purpose. *See* Specification page 14, lines 14-19. Representations can be configured for low, medium, or high bandwidth streaming, for example, or for decoding by low, medium, or high power processors. *See* Specification, page 14, line 20 through page 15, line 3. Each representation is independent of the other representations and can be decoded to render a presentation.

In accordance with one embodiment, a set of synchronization points is selected or identified in each of multiple encoded representations of a video stream. The synchronization points can enable a decoding processor to switch from decoding one representation to decoding another representation at any synchronization point in real-time. *See* Section II of the Specification, titled "Overview of the Invention," page 12, lines 22-30. Each of the synchronization points in an encoded representation preferably has a corresponding synchronization point in the other representations. The corresponding synchronization points are preferably located at the same temporal location in each of the streams. *See* Specification, page 21, lines 15-20. In one embodiment, the synchronization points are encoded frames that can be independently decoded without reliance upon any other encoded frame data. *See* Specification, page 22, line 29 through page 23, line 3.

Turning to the claims, it is seen that independent Claim 1, as amended, recites: "encoding said input media signal to generate the plurality of encoded representations, wherein at least a portion of the media signal is included in a first encoded representation of said plurality of encoded representations and the same portion is also included in a second encoded representation of said plurality of encoded representations and said first encoded representation is encoded according to a different set of encoding parameters than said second encoded representation." Independent Claims 9, 10, 15, 20, 24, 34, and 35 each recite similar limitations.

In contrast, Boon describes that an image signal can be encoded one of two alternative ways: (i) with shape data or (ii) with shape and texture data. In the Office Action, the Examiner stated that Boon discloses generating a plurality of encoded representations because it shows an input media signal being encoded independently via one of two methods, one having shape and texture data, the other only having shape data. Applicant respectfully submits that Boon only encodes one representation for each portion of the media signal. In Boon, the encoded representation includes either (i) shape data or (ii) shape and texture data. Boon does not teach

or suggest encoding a representation of a selected part of the media signal by *each* of the methods.

Furthermore, with respect to Claim 46, it recites: "wherein each of the encoded representations is adapted to be decoded to play the selected part of the media signal, and wherein each of the plurality of encoded representations are encoded using *shared* color data, motion vector data, and/or discrete cosine coefficients" (emphasis added). Although the prior art may discuss using certain of these characteristics during an encoding process, Applicant respectfully submits that that the prior art fails to teach or suggest encoding a particular portion of a media signal into multiple representations using *shared* color data, motion vector data, and/or discrete cosine coefficients.

Since Boon fails to teach or suggest at least this limitation, Applicant respectfully submits that independent Claims 1, 9, 10, 15, 20, 24, 34, and 35 are in condition for allowance. Dependent Claims 13, 18, 21, 23, 33, and 43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boon in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 200021/0038674, to Trans. Since Claims 13, 18, 21, 23, 33, and 43, each depend on one of Claims 1, 10, 15, 20, Applicant respectfully submits that these claims are allowable for at least the reasons discussed above and the subject matter of their own limitations.

Summary

Applicant has endeavored to address all of the Examiner's concerns as expressed in the outstanding Office Action. Accordingly, amendments to the claims for patentability purposes, the reasons therefore, and arguments in support of the patentability of the pending claim set are presented above. Any claim amendments which are not specifically discussed in the above remarks are not made for patentability purposes, and the claims would satisfy the statutory requirements for patentability without the entry of such amendments. In addition, such amendments do not narrow the scope of the claims. Rather, these amendments have only been made to increase claim readability, to improve grammar, and to reduce the time and effort required of those in the art to clearly understand the scope of the claim language. In light of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections is
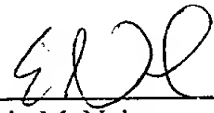
specifically requested. If the Examiner has any questions which may be answered by telephone, he is invited to call the undersigned directly.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: _Aug 6, 2003_   By: _____

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